The Logger's Bark
RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

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FROM THE EDITOR!

Hello again, fellow club members. If you are a steady reader of the "Loggers Bark" you will surely notice a change in the format of this month's publication. At this time we are not sure if this will be a permanent change or just a temporary thing.

In any event, another month has come and gone and we're still here… (Mostly). Unfortunately, in the minutes of this month's meetings you will see that a few of us have gone to the big ham station in the sky, and I'm sure that they are having a good time working heavenly DX!

Speaking of DX, the bands have been opening a bit more as we slide into a new solar cycle. Ten and fifteen meters have been showing more activity, especially fifteen. The last couple of weekends, I've been hanging out on fifteen looking for a Montana station, any mode. But, and this is strange, the mode with the most activity is the FT8 watering hole. It's really strange when you stop and think about it: even on my crummy wire antenna FT8 stations were booming in last weekend with S-9 or better signal levels, while the rest of the band had nothing. No CW, no SSB, nothing but the FT frequencies showed any action.

Really weird. But, I was hanging out on the FT8 portion looking for W7 stations in the hope that one of them would be the prized Montana station. I finally found one, gave him a call, and the Montana QSO was in the log! Not only that, but he confirmed the contact via LOTW in less than fifteen minutes!

That was the last state I needed for 5 band Worked All States 5BWAS.

Whoopee! Patience does pay off!

I hope that the coming year brings you all some good DX or rag chews or whatever you like to do on ham radio. Don't give up simply because the bands seem to be dead. You never know…

On a different subject, as some of you know, I am the usual net control for the club's Saturday morning Doughnut Eater's Net (DEN). We will be coming up on a year of doing this net sometime in April, I believe. So, I am floating an idea of doing a 1st Anniversary DEN net at the clubhouse sometime around early April. The idea would be that the net will be run from the clubhouse and coffee, doughnuts and possibly a breakfast will be outside under a canopy behind the club house, weather permitting. Stay tuned for future developments! 73 Gary

Page 1: Editors report.

Page 2: BOD Meeting minutes.

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Radio Club of Tacoma

Board of Directors Meeting

January 6, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Meeting called to order at 19:00 local time by Mike Mikuchonis-W7XTZ

Officers and Directors Present

President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ

Vice-President Adam Barbara W2NCC

Secretary Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

Treasurer Steve Dightman AF7YD

Board Bruce Hanson WE7P

Board Paul Matney W7PFU

Board Red Cranefield WB7EC

Board Phil Pia K7PIA

Board Verna Lilly KF7SCB

Quorum? A quorum was present and 13 people attended all or most of the Zoom Meeting. Attendance list is attached.

Mike W7XTZ made a few comments as new President, wishing all good health and gave thanks for the limited club activities that we have been able to continue. Some activities are needful, bills to pay, members to log, facilities to upkeep, etc. We also need to plan for upcoming events and activities. Mike thanked Dave Ellison W7UUU for his work as Past President who left the club in good order. He looks forward to a great two years.

To begin the meeting Peter Baker AD7EU was appointed as Parliamentarian.

Discussion and Appointment of Vice-President: (W7XTZ)

The former VP now President Mike W7XTZ appointed Adam Barbara W2NCC the new Vice-President to fill his remaining 1-year term of office.

Discussion and Appointment of other BOD or Officers: (W7XTZ)

Mike W7XTZ queried the BOD and others in attendance for nominees two names were put forward by BOD members for the board opening vacated by Adam W2NCC's appointment to Vice-President. Verna Lilly KF7SCB was a consensus selection and she joined the meeting and agreed to accept the position of Board Member for the 1 year of Adam's term that remains.

Silent Key or Illness?

Some may know Mike & Key's Raleigh Elkins WB7WNF he is now a Silent Key.

Michael "Mike" Elwell W7GHW, club member since 2014, recently became a Silent Key.

Fred Rabel AE7CK a member from 2009 – 2017 is reportedly now in a nursing home in Lakewood.

Approval of Minutes of December 2, 2020 RCT BOD meeting as distributed.

Bruce WE7P **moved to approve the minutes** as distributed and Paul W7PFU seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

Secretary's Report (W7MKE)

Two copies of the Awards Program booklet are produced and available for the club and/or library. It's a photo copy of all the awards and recognitions from the December 13, 2020 Zoom meeting bound into a booklet. Thanks to our website manager, a recording of the award meeting is available on RCT website at tabs: Home page/Meetings tab/ Regular Meeting Program Materials. Some QSL cards arrived from the ARRL 7th QSL bureau. Mostly all is routine with some corporate filings upcoming soon.

Treasurer's Report (AF7YD)

The BOD should have received Steve's email with inventory and insurance updates, along with his written report to BOD.

Our year end banking assets are about $XX,XXX. Assets 2019 vs 2020, gross income was down 28%. Core business expense (utilities, etc.) was $xx,xxx about same as last year. Operating expenses are down from 2019 about 50% from $XX K to $XX K more or less.

On Jan. 2nd Steve sent out information on Insurance. Liability Insurance has now excluded communicable disease from coverage. After BOD discussion, Steve agreed to contact the WA State Insurance Commissioner to see if this is within WA State Law.

Steve then discussed Equipment Insurance in line with the new inventory he has completed. Our new valuation is now about $XX K up from about $XX K previously insured. Steve thinks the rates are about 1.5% of valuation so if we want the new higher valuation our insurance would increase by about $300 per year. Steve's received no response about rates from the Insurance carrier about our new valuation so for now, Steve will send a payment for equipment insurance for the old value and amend the inventory list later. Some BOD members want to examine the new inventory list to see if we need insurance on all of the items on that list. **An ad hoc committee** of Bruce WE7P, Adam W2NCC, Bruce WB7EC and Steve AF7YD was constituted to review the inventory for insurance purposes.

Committee / Reports

Membership and Salmon Run (K7GRS)

George K7GRS has indicated that he needs to step down as Membership Manager. Membership responsibilities are suggested to be passed to Juan Robertson KJ7GGB who seems well qualified. George has indicated he would continue to help Juan as needed.

Yearend Membership Census: 284 total members made up of 4 promotional, 5 honorary, 30 Lifetime, 75 Full time, 3 associates, 152 Senior members and 15 Family members for a total of $7590 of membership income in 2020. So far

for 2021, 196 members have renewed and 88 have not renewed.

Salmon run Totals: $XXXX was pledged and $XXXX has been collected. Only three pledges are outstanding. This total is about $XXXX over last year's.

George has distributed about 100 History Books so far with income sufficient to cover costs plus just a bit more. This level of response was very unexpected. George indicated he would submit a membership budget for 2021 via e-mail to BOD members.

Library (Randy WB4SPB filling in for Doug AD7AV) Doug's Report is attached.

The Library report (attached) constitutes **a motion for $306.** Motion was seconded by Adam W2NCC**.**

Motion Passed .

Training (AD7AB

No report

VE Testing (AC7WW)

A VE session with go forward 1/13.

Info Tech and Website (WB4SPB)

All systems nominal. Website has included the Awards program link mentioned earlier. Randy has also created a "swap and shop" page for the website. On the home page select the Resource tab at the left side bottom and then see the Swap N Shop tab. These items will only be available to the members who can logon to the website. Randy expects the website to need about $100 for the year to pay for web hosting sites.

HF Operations (K7PIA)

All HF stations seem to be OK. Phil will check them after VE session next week.

Repeater Ops (N7OMS)

No report, however, the 147.280 repeater seem to be working OK. Steve raised questions about the Bates repeater performance and it was thought that AL N7OMS was attempting to get access.

Facilities Management (W2NCC)

Adam indicated he's make a list of projects for 2021 next meeting along with a budget. We are trying to conclude the tube inventory.

Property Mgmt (WB7EC)

Red submitted a yearend report (Attached) for PMT. Red indicated he would continue as PMT and has contacted much of his committee to see if they would continue.

Museum (KR7W)

The Museum Committee requests that a $455 budget for year 2021 be granted by the RCT Board of Directors. No significant news to report from the W7OS Museum.

Respectfully submitted,

Rich KR7W

A motion was made by Mike W7MKE to grant the Museum committee $455 and seconded by Bruce WE7P. **Motion carried.**

Weds Workshop (WB4SPB)

To be determined.

General Meeting (KF7SCB)

Verna has a program prepared on the Club Repeaters.

Field Day Proposal – Plan for Field Day as usual, following whatever Covid guidelines are in place at the time. If the restrictions prevent us from operating in the field, we can use the same Field Day at Home plan we used in 2020. One new goal for 2021 is to make the site more accessible for people with mobility challenges.

Unfinished Business

From November BOD, Motion to postpone until now: Who will maintain SK Board?

Adam W2NCC agreed to take on the responsibility.

New Business

Discussion and appointment of Committee Chairs and members

Mike W7XTZ made a "blanket appointment" of all committee chairs pending him contacting all for confirmation.

STANDING COMMITTEES

a. Membership Juan Robertson KJ7GGB Chairperson

George Salisbury K7GRS

b. Property Mgmt. Bruce Cranefield WB7EC Chairperson

Jack Hegseth K7DBU

Al Ferguson N7OMS

Bruce Hanson WE7P

Adam Barbera W2NCC

Greta Hewlett KF7KSW

Paul Matney W7PFU

Warren Angus NG7G

Eric Jenkins K7APO

c. IT/Website Randy Myers WB4SPB Chairperson

d. Repeater Al Ferguson N7OMS Chairperson

Chuck Kemmer AC7QN

Rich Patrick KR7W

Jim Hatfield K7SSS

Tim White K7TMW

e. Librarian /Historian Doug Oakman AD7AV Head Librarian, Archivist, and Historian

Peter Baker AD7EU

Adam Barbera W2NCC

Steve Dightman AF7YD

Al Ferguson N7OMS

Chuck Kemmer AC7QN

Randy Myers WB4SPB

Rich Patrick KR7W

George Salisbury K7GRS

Sue Schub KF7SOW

Pat Wingerter WT7N

OTHER APPOINTEES

f. Facilities Management Adam Barbera W2NCC Chairperson

g. Parliamentarian Peter Baker AD7EU

h. Newsletter Editor Gary McAdams WG7X

i. Training Coordinator Stephen Morton AD7AB Chairperson

j. Museum Rich Patrick- KR7W Curator

Chuck Kemmer AC7QN

Randy Myers WB4SPB

Al Ferguson N7OMS

Jim Driscoll W7OWI

k. QSL Manager OPEN

l. HF Committee Phil Pia K7PIA Chairperson

Al Ferguson N7OMS

Bob Purdom AD7LJ

m. Tower and Antenna Nick Winter K7MO

n. 147.280 Net Control Chris Maher N7CPM Co-Coordinator

Scott Peterson KA7IOX

Deanna Jenks KA7DCX

Phil Pia K7PIA

Peter Baker AD7EU

Gary McAdams WG7X

o. Gen. Mtg. Programs Verna Lilly KF7SCB

p. Loggers Certificate Dave Ellison W7UUU

q. Sunshine Committee Greta Hewlett KF7KSW

r. VE Program John Clarke AC7WW ARRL Liaison

Linda Adams AB7YL

David Brooks N7HT

Leonard Burstiner KA7NWF

Margaret Ellis KC7KIT

Jan Gilbertson K7HTU

John Hamilton AD7AW

Rich Heasty KK7VH

Michael Isakson W7XH

Joe Lester K7ZG

Stephen Morton AD7AB

Phillip Pia K7PIA

Whit Worcester KG7LNZ

s. Awards Banquet planning OPEN

t. Summer Picnic planning OPEN

u. Gen.Mtging Space Planning OPEN

Dave-W7UUU indicated that he might be able to help if no one steps up.

W7OS Club Members

Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ

Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

Rich Patrick KR7W

Chuck Kemmer AC7QN

Activity Reports and Discussion Topics

Bruce WE7P, Gary WG7X & Nick-K7MO and Harry Wong N7DOE all worked the recent RTTY Roundup contest either personally or as contest club operators.

Mike W7XTZ has dipped his toe into AM and with some audio setting tweaks got some good reports.

Announcements

M&K are taking names for General and Extra Class license classes.

Adjournment

Bruce WE7P Moved and Bruce WB7EC seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion passed.

Adjournment at: 20:38 Local

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

RCT Secretary

Radio Club of Tacoma General Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2021

ZOOM MEETING

Officers and Directors Present:

President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ

Vice President Adam Barbera W2NCC

Secretary Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

Treasurer Steve Dightman AF7YD

Board Verna Lilly KF7SCB

Board Phil Pia K7PIA

Board Paul Matney K7PFU

Board Red Cranefield WB7EC

Board Bruce Hansen WE7P

Meeting Called to Order at: 13:31 by Mike W7XTZ

Quorum: (10% of membership required to do business = 20 this month)

A quorum was achieved and all Officers and Board members were present. A total of 25 people attended all or some of the meeting.

Mike W7XTZ announced Adam W2NCC was appointed as new VP and Verna KF7SCB as new BOD member. Both will fill remaining one year terms. He then offered the Club's thanks to Dave W7UUU for his work as our past president who left our club in good shape.

Welcome and Acknowledgement of New Members and Visitors (Please introduce yourselves)

Holly W6HCE is a former Puget Sound resident now back after 20 years spent in Bay Area and she's interested in ham radio and our club. Welcome Holly.

Health and Welfare/Silent Key & Illness

Some may know Mike & Key's Raleigh Elkins WB7WNF he is now a Silent Key.

Michael "Mike" Elwell W7GHW, club member since 2014, recently became a Silent Key.

Fred Rabel AE7CK a member from 2009 – 2017 is reportedly now in a nursing home in Lakewood.

Secretary's Report (Mike-W7MKE)

Two copies of the Awards Program booklet are produced and available for the club and/or library. It's a photo copy of all the awards and recognitions from the December 13, 2020 Zoom meeting bound into a booklet. Thanks to our web-site manager, a recording of the award meeting is available on RCT website at tabs: Home page/Meetings tab/Regular Meeting Program Materials. Some QSL cards arrived from the ARRL 7th QSL bureau. Mostly all is routine with some corporate filings upcoming soon.

Treasurer's Report (Steve AF7YD)

Income was down this year but expenses are also down even further so we continue with a good balance. Equipment insurance may increase as a recent equipment inventory showed we are under insured in that area. However, the BOD assigned an Ad Hoc committee to look at the new inventory list to decide if everything needs to be insured. Property and Liability insurance are also due in January, and property insurance will also increase as our building is under insured.

Committee / Activity Reports

Membership (Juan KI7GGB)

We are still receiving membership renewals and updating the data base as they come in. George K7GRS will continue to work as an advisor to the new Membership Chairperson Juan Robertson.

Training (Stephen AD7AB)

No report.

Phil K7PIA announced that Mike & Key is taking names for General and Extra Class training. Contact Phil Pia K7PIA if you are interested in one of these classes.

VE Report (John AC7WW)

The next VE testing is January 13th.

HF Operations (Phil K7PIA)

Not much going on, but as far as Phil knows all is OK. He's going to check on station during VE session next week.

Repeater Operations (AL N7OMS)

No report, but the main 147.280 repeater seems to be working fine.

IT Report (Randy WB4SPB)

All systems are functioning within normal and expected parameters. Please help with any website updates you see needed. Also there are two new links on the website. One is a link to the recent Awards Ceremony and another is a new Swap & Shop page on the website where members and others can post items for sale. Only members can view the page. Items stay up 30 days.

Museum (Rich KR7W)

No report. Rich has completed an inventory over the last month and is currently working on a Hallicrafter receiver. AL activated W7OS on Straight Key night making a few contacts with the older rigs.

Property Management (Red WB7EC)

Sales have been slow and this year and sales total about $4K. If you see anything in the BARK or elsewhere that you want, contact Red and make arrangements to pay and/or pick up item.

Small items could possibly be shipped. Prepaid labels preferred. A tube inventory is ongoing so we can try to sell the thousands of extra tubes the club has accumulated over the years. Two nice stations came in recently and posted in the BARK, excellent for a hew Ham needing an HF station.

Facilities Management (Adam W2NCC)

In 2020 we completed new ceiling tiles on first floor, new 240 VAC in Lou room, rewired the HF electrical panel and installed new steel shelving in the garage along with other projects. He will get a list of new projects for 2021 which will include new handicap ramp, pressure wash clubhouse, repair siding, and some other stuff. Radio Club of Tacoma

4th Wed. Night Activity (Randy WB4SPB)

Topic TBD

Bark Editor (Gary WG7X)

Seems we have a few more readers now. Thanks to those who contribute. If you want to put something in the BARK please send it to Gary. If pictures, please label them so Gary knows what they are. Address to send stuff to the BARK is on the W7DK website. Usually the last week of the month is the deadline for submissions. This deadline is sort of a soft date.

Unfinished Business / Announcements

None offered

New Business (Mike-W7XTZ)

January is time to appoint committee chairpersons and invite others to participate in committees. Mike W7XTZ has contacted most of the committee heads to confirm their continued help and the committee heads as we know them now are listed. So contact Mike W7XTZ or a committee head if you can help.

STANDING COMMITTEES

a. Membership Juan Robertson KJ7GGB Chairperson

b. Property Mgmt. Bruce Cranefield WB7EC Chairperson

c. IT/Website Randy Myers WB4SPB Chairperson

d. Repeater Al Ferguson N7OMS Chairperson

e. Librarian /Historian Doug Oakman AD7AV Head Librarian, Archivist, and Historian

OTHER APPOINTEES

f. Facilities Management Adam Barbera W2NCC Chairperson

g. Parliamentarian Peter Baker AD7EU

h. Newsletter Editor Gary McAdams WG7X

i. Training Coordinator Stephen Morton AD7AB Chairperson

j. Museum Rich Patrick- KR7W Curator

k. QSL Manager Anne N7ANN

l. HF Committee Phil Pia K7PIA Chairperson

m. Tower and Antenna Nick Winter K7MO

n. 147.280 Net Control Chris Maher N7CPM Co-Coordinator

o. Gen. Mtg. Programs Verna Lilly KF7SCB

p. Loggers Certificate Dave Ellison W7UUU

q. Sunshine Committee Greta Hewlett KF7KSW

r. VE Program John Clarke AC7WW ARRL Liaison

s. Awards Banquet planning OPEN

t. Summer Picnic planning OPEN

u. General Meeting Space Planning OPEN

Radio Club of Tacoma General Meeting Minutes January 9, 2021 ZOOM MEETING

Program (Verna-KF7SCB)

Some Announcements from Verna first: For Field Day this year we are planning to have a FD in the Field, hopefully with improved access for those with limited mobility. We'll fall back to FD at home if necessary.

Safety Report: Verna gave a rundown on the Covid vaccine schedules (see website listed for more information) WA State and Pierce County Department of Health are good source of information. https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information

Program: Repeater Basics and Etiquette.

Much of the information comes from Don Butler N4UJW at hamuniverse.com (www.hamuniverse.com/repeater.html)

 A repeater receives your signal and resends it with a much stronger more wide ranging signal, usually from an antenna placed in a high location.

 The received signal and the transmitted signal are different frequencies. This is accomplished using a "duplexer" that keeps the incoming signal and the outgoing signal from mixing and a repeater controller, a small computer that man-

ages the system.

 The amount of signal offset (incoming from outgoing signal) depends on the frequency (band) used. VHF 600KHZ offset, UHF 5MHZ offset.

 Several pictures of the W7DK repeater antennas and repeater components were shown

 Etiquette basics: Listen first to see if channel is open for use, Give your call sign at beginning and every 10 minutes, keep conversations short if repeater is busy or move to simplex if possible. Use minimum power necessary. Defer use to nets.

Show and Tell

Mike W7XTZ mentioned his 80M delta loop antenna he put up last month. Antenna works really good as NVIS for NW contacts and marginally to East Coast locations. Also used for AM transmissions with some success.

Tuning and Traffic

The North American QSO party is on right now.

Walt-WA7SDY with his minimal antenna is about to check into the noontime net on 40M (7.283.5 MHZ) with net control in NV, ID and other place using 30W.

Announcements

Randy WB4SPB announced that there is now a 10M CW net forming. Meeting 19:00 Mondays on 28.055 MHZ. Sending fairly slowly so hopefully everyone can participate. Operated as a roundtable.

Adjournment

Mike W7XTZ thanked all for attending and participating. The meeting is adjourned at

14:26 Local

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

RCT Secretary

JANUARY RCT SURPLUS

VIRUS DONATION 2021

Contact RED WB7EC at E-MAIL(bruce-ec@hotmail.com) to reserve/make offer on

Any item

DONATION

18. Yaesu HF PWR AMP FT-2100B (80 meters in op) $300.00

25. Kenwood XTAL Filter YG-455C-1 $50.00

41. Suitcase with Tektronix scope camera $50.00

84. Comet Triplexer CFX-514 $40.00

19. Elecraft HF XCVR K1 TWO bands 15/40 /AT $ 300.00

125. Kenwood TR-9000 2MTR XCVR $ 100.00

127. Mirage 2 meter mobile amp B-1016G $ 150.00

138. Kenwood HF RX R-599D SN: 530265 UNDER REPAIR

147. DX Engineering Remote Coax Control Switch CC-8 $ 400.00

148. DX Engineering Coax Switch RR8-HP P/O #147

149. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-930S SN: 2120327 $ 600.00

150. Kenwood Speaker SP 930 P/O #149

151. Kenwood MIC MC-60 P/O #149

152. Kenwood Power Supply PS-30 $ 50.00

156. MFJ Active Antenna MFJ-1020C $60.00

157. MFJ Dual Speech Enhancer MFJ-618 $150.00

166. Mirage VHF 6 MTR AMP a-1015G $ 200.00

167. Vectronics Antenna Tuner mod HFT 1500 $ 300.00

174. CDE Rotor Control H-IV/CD-45-II $ 50.00

180. Rig Blaster plug & play Digital mode interface $. 30.00

181. Emerson speaker $. 5.00

182. Archer rotor control PN: 15-1220 $. 5.00

183. Wilson WR50U rotor control $ 7.00

184. ICOM IC-H19s2 VHF hand held/ BM-70 charger $ 7.00

185. two Amateur TV stations in portable boxes $ 500.00 for both/300.00 each

186A. Sony DCR-HC 42 camera case $ 50.00

186B. Sony DCR-HC 42 camera case $ 50.00 186A/B $ 75.00

189. Motorola MFR M12 L box $ 5.00

190. Motorola MSRS 12 Regulator box $ 5.00

191. F2A85-V motherboard $ 3.00

193. Heathkit Sine Wave Audio Generator IG-5218 $ 30.00

194. Zenith old Radio not complete $ 20.00

195. Zenith old radio complete $ 30.00

198. Philco old radio $ 10.00

200. Home made test set $ 10.00

201. Patrolman Pro 2 receiver $ 5.00

202. Aldenmarine Fax IV $ 30.00

205. COMP USA 250 watt ATX power supply $ 10.00

206. COMP USA 250 watt ATX power supply $ 10.00

212. Lafayette Speaker model 99-2571 $ 30.00

215. Blue box with 4 headsets $ 20.00

223. Kenwood 2/220 mobile XCVR TM-621A,no mic/pwr cable $ 50.00

226. B & W Antenna Tuner VS300A $ 90.00

227. Elecraft HF XCVR KX3 # 10797,NEW in BOX/extra parts $ 900.00

229. MFJ Artificial GND MFJ-931 $ 90.00

230 MFJ Noise Cancelling Signal Enhancer MFJ-1026 $ 150.00

231. MFJ Dual Channel Speech Enhancer MFJ-618 $ 180.00

232. Murch Transmatch/Antenna Tuner UT-2000A 3.5-30MHZ $ 100.00

234. MFJ RF Preselector II MFJ-1040 $ 40.00

235. MFJ Active Antenna MFJ-1020A $ 40.00

236. Heathkit Antenna Noise Bridge HD-1422A $ 20.00

237. Heathkit Speaker SB-600 $ 100.00

238. MFJ Morse Key Board Keyer MFJ-452/HP Keyboard $ 100.00

239. Drake HF Receiver R-4C (early model) SN: 16553 $350.00 for SET 240 & 241

240. Drake HF Transmitter T-4X SN: 13105B $ P/O 239

241. Drake Speaker/PS MS-4 $ P/O 239

242. ICOM VHF XCVR IC-211/no mic $ 200.00

243. Alinco VHF Handheld XCVR DJ-196T $ 45.00

244. Vertex VHF Handheld XCVR VX-150 $ 45.00

245. Heathkit HF Receiver SB-301 $ 150.00

246. Heathkit Speaker SB-600 $ 100.00

249. Kenwood Power Supply KPS-12 $ 50.00

251. Vista Inverter 12VDC to 115VAC $ 15.00

252. Icom HF XCVR IC-720A $ 350.00

253. Icom Power Supply IC-PS15 $ P/O 252

254. Icom Microphone IC-SM5 $ P/O 252

255. NYE Viking Keyer SSK-1-K $ 35.00

256. Icom HF XCVR IC-735 $ 450.00

257. Icom Power Supply PS-55 $ P/O 256

258. Icom HF Tuner AT-150 $ P/O 256

259. Icom Microphone IC-SM6 $ P/O 256

261.

AS OF 24 JAN 2021

Report on the PMT Drake Set in this list above

T-4X transmitter serial # 13105B, manufactured between 11/22/66 and 8/7/67 (WB4HFN database)

- Above chassis condition: very corroded, now cleaned but could use more work
- Below chassis condition: pristine, no mods
- PA cathode resistors 17.5 and 17.7 ohms: a bit high, but close in value is more important
- Screen resistors 70.7 and 70 ohms
- Dial and meter gels are surprisingly blue and not faded
- 80M band crystal is low by 7 KHz
- Restorative work performed: ○ Missing AUX crystal knob replaced with a chicken-head

○ Rotary switch contacts and tube pins are cleaned with De-Oxit

○ Replaced internal can electrolytic cap with discrete components, left in place and marked "N/C". Old wires that connected the can are left in place for a future restorer.

- Aligned per manual
- Neutralization is imperfect on 40M, OK on other bands. Tune up carefully, **always dip the plate last**.
- Reasonable output on all bands: 100W on 80M, 75W on 10M
- Operates well on CW
- Some buzz is audible to a nearby receiver on SSB transmissions, a distant contact did not report hearing it. **This merits further investigation**. Early mic amplifier stages seem clean, buzz is introduced in the final stage or the balanced mixer? Filament supply ground loop?

AC-4 power supply

• A Harbach upgrade board and 3-wire power cable have been installed (very desirable upgrades)

- Restorative work performed:
- General cleaning
- De-Oxit on Jones connector sockets

MS-4 speaker cabinet

• Very good condition, speaker sounds good.

R-4C receiver serial # 16553, manufactured between Feb. 1973 and July 1973 (WB4HFN database)

• This is an early R-4C, the first of four versions

- Optional Noise Blanker not present
- Optional 500 Hz CW filter **is present**
- Optional 10M CW band (28.0 MHz) crystal not present

• Optional crystal for 29.5 MHz band **is present**

• Optional crystal for 10 MHz band **is present**

• Above chassis condition: dirty and somewhat pitted, now cleaned but could use more work

• Below chassis condition: pristine, no mods

• Power supply board is in surprisingly good condition (often they are heat-damaged)

• Dial mechanism scrapes a little, plastic gears rattle a little, slip clutch does not disengage easily (the rubber part hardens, not hard to replace with proper size bit of radiator hose)

• Restorative work performed: o Replaced missing VFO light

- Rotary switch contacts and tube pins are cleaned with De-Oxit
- Internal can electrolytic caps have been re-stuffed with modern components.
- Bias supply 8uF electrolytic is replaced with modern, 47 uF component.
- 10uF filter cap on power supply board replaced on general principles
- Aligned per manual
- Notch center frequency is still a little off, not easy to adjust
- All receiver functions operate properly

Combo operation

Cables were found or constructed to permit transceive operation.

Receive signal levels are slightly lower when the frequency is controlled by the transmitter (typical).

The receiver carrier oscillator was adjusted per the manual to net the transmit and receive frequencies. This adjustment typically requires periodic attention with the receiver top cabinet removed.

This radio set was used by W7OS to make a dozen contacts in the Fall 2020 Classic Exchange contest

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Website Swap N Shop
Byline: RCT Webmaster

The RCT website receives frequent emails along the following lines:

"Please tell your members that I have <these items> for sale".

Sometimes the items are part of an SK estate. Sometimes they are simply excess to the needs of the sender. A surprising number have said "yours if you come and get it".

In the past, your RCT webmasters have printed and posted such notices on the clubhouse bulletin board for a limited time (usually one month), and it's not been unusual to find that these postings have resulted in some kind of transaction taking place. A few years ago, one fellow wrote to us that he had a tower and a beam he didn't want. That posting got traction the same day it appeared on the bulletin board, and one of our newest members at that time ended up with those items. More recently, a fellow asked if anyone in the club could use some 2M transceivers and antennas. Two or three club members benefited from that posting in the clubhouse.

Unfortunately, nobody sees the clubhouse bulletin board right now, since we can't meet there for Open House or other activities. So your webmasters have built-out a facility that existed but was previously unused on the RCT website: the "Swap N Shop" page. You can see it by clicking the **Resources** menu item you will find on the left side of any w7dk.org web page and then on the **Swap N Shop** link. (Or try this direct link.)

A new 10-meter CW Social Net: TAN (Tacoma Area Net)

You are cordially invited to join club members and other local hams on a new 10M CW social net. Speeds are slow to moderate, 15 WPM or less. Net sessions are held at **7PM Monday evenings on 28.055 MHz**.

TAN has been meeting for about a month with 5 to 6 regular participants, and we're ready for more of you to join us.

TAN is a **directed CW roundtable**, with a Net Control Station (NCS). Participants take turns transmitting in an order assigned by the NCS. Our goal is to complete at least two rounds during each session, as the use of multiple rounds allows a degree of conversation between participating stations. Experience suggests that 6 to 8 participants can get through 2 to 4 rounds in 60 minutes. If we're lucky enough to have a large number of participants, we can split into two groups, and one can move to a nearby frequency.

Special signals

There are a small handful of prosigns and net-oriented Q-signals that are used on TAN (mostly by the NCS):

AS - prosign <di dah di di dit>, meaning "wait"
QND - net is directed (used by the NCS to state when the net formally begins)

QNI - check in now (the NCS is listening for check ins to the net

QNX - you are excused (or PSE QNX - I wish to be excused)

QNZ - please zero beat the NCS signal

Net procedure
10 to 15 minutes before start time, the NCS calls for early check-ins. Check in early if you can, and the NCS will ask you to wait (AS) for the formal beginning of the net. See **Check-in procedure**, below.

- At the official net start time, the NCS transmits a short welcome/preamble declaring the net open (QND) along with a last call for check-ins.
- Once everyone is checked-in, the **NCS transmits a list of call signs giving the order in which participating stations will have the floor**. This is not necessarily the order in which participants checked-in, as the NCS tries to consider whether stations can hear each other. The NCS will be last in the list. **Participants should copy down the order list and note their place on it**.
- The NCS will start a round by calling the first station on the list. **That operator will hold forth on any subject for up to a few minutes and then call the next station on the list**. This continues until control returns to the NCS.
- Example subjects might include: signal reports for other participants, the radio or antenna in use, a comment on a previous participant's transmission, welfare reports or announcements of interest to the group, operating plans for an upcoming event, etc.
- Once control returns to the NCS, there will be a pause in the roundtable while the NCS calls for additional check-ins. All stations should listen carefully, because at this point the NCS may adjust the list order, but new stations are generally added at the beginning of the list so that the previous order does not change. In unusual cases of stations coming and going, the NCS may issue an entirely new order list.
- The NCS then begins a new round by calling the station at the beginning of the list.
- If you wish to leave before the end of the net, say **PSE QNX** during your turn and call the NCS rather than the station that would normally follow. The NCS will reply with something like **QNX 73** and will give instructions, if needed, to close the hole in the list. Finally, the NCS will pass control to the next station in order.

- After 50-60 minutes, the NCS will close the net rather than start a new round.

If you are unsure what station should follow you, just return control to the NCS, who will call the appropriate station.

Participants do not normally transmit out of turn, but if *really* necessary (phone call, dinner time, etc.) it is OK to **BK** between turns, at which point the NCS will take control, may excuse the breaking station from the net, and will give the floor to the next station in order.

Check-in procedure

- The NCS will issue a call along these lines: **CQ TAN DE <NCS callsign> QNI K**
- To check in, send the first letter of your callsign **suffix** and listen for the NCS to respond. For example, WB4SPB would send **S**.
- The NCS would respond with **S K**, meaning **the station who sent S should go ahead.** If multiple participants try to check-in at the same time, this technique should allow the NCS to respond to **just one** of them.
- WB4SPB would then send: **DE WB4SPB <signal report> K**
- The NCS acknowledges a new station and asks the operator to stand by, like this: **WB4SPB R <signal report> AS**
- The NCS will then solicit additional check-ins by transmitting **NEXT QNI K** or by calling **CQ** again.

In order to increase coverage, the NCS may occasionally ask another station to call for check-ins and report any added participants.

Questions and comments

Questions and comments are welcome, please send them to: wb4spb@echolake.com

After our TAN session this evening, Rich, KR7W sent me the attached photo. 73, Randy.

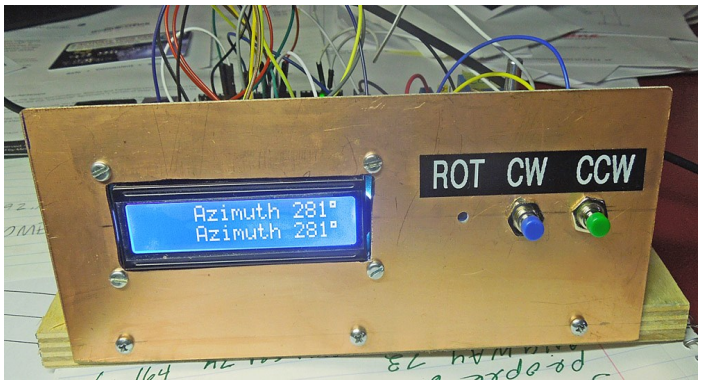
Show n Tell January 2021 From KR7W

I knew that club member Al N7OMS's antenna towers Alpha Spid Rotator Controller had blew up beyond repair by an unfortunate nearby lightning storm (the Spid rotator is OK). Recently revisiting this issue with Al, on a whim, I set out to build an equivalent Spid rotator controller that uses only Chicom Arduino Microprocessor Parts from eBay or Amazon. This quickly written article depicts what I've done so far. Ya never know– perhaps a Bark reader might be interested in an Arduino ham radio project for their station.

As a fan of Adruino microcontrollers for ham radio use– I had knowledge of a DIY Arduino Rotator Control box from the Radio Artisan Groups.i.o. Click: radioartisan@groups.io | Home for Info. This group's pet projects are Winkeyer CW Keyers / Code Practice Oscillator, Antenna Tuner, and Rotator Controller. Projects mostly use Arduino microcontrollers (or more modern equivalents) and Raspberry Pi Single Board Computers. The programming code is authored by the group leader– Anthony Good, K3NG. The best source of info is: Home · k3ng/k3ng_rotator_controller Wiki · GitHub

The Youtube channel is here: Radio Artisan - YouTube Try searching within Youtube for "K3NG Rotator Controller".

I have built the Radio Artisan Winkeyer before– and am familiar with K3NG's programming scheme– and have all kinds of Chicom Arduino parts laying around– so nothing ventured, nothing gained from the basement Covid proof bunker / ham shack whilst awaiting the text message for my Covid vaccine. Photos tell the rest of the story:



L: Prototype #2 uses Baltic Birch Plywood breadboard base for assured success. The ROT LED indicator (coming soon) – tells when the rotator is moving via push button input or control from PC logging program that supports this function. When a button is pushed– the display tells what is happening. The Azimuth displayed is FAKE– derived from a rotary encoder that is subbing for the Spid rotator's 1/2 degree per pulse output.

R: Prototype #2 rear view shows various components jumpered together. Lower R is the Arduino Mega microprocessor. Lower L is two *relay modules* that operate via the Arduino's control. It is very satisfying to hear the CLICK when a CW or CCW command is initiated.

The proto board in the center is for experimenting– try this, try that and see what happens. The board has three Pots– Display contrast, Fake Yaesu rotator input, and a rotary encoder to emulate how the Spid rotator outputs pulses. Also, hard to see, is the 5V power supply module.

Thanks for looking. 73, 74, 75. Keep your nose ***IN*** joint. Over/Out Kr7w.

MAILBAG!

From President Mike comes the following request:

We have several committee vacancies. We are looking for people to head up the following committees?

QSL Manager: Someone to receive & store QSL cards mailed to us and to send out QSL cards when appropriate.

Awards Banquet Planning: Someone to plan for our end of year Holiday & awards banquet. We would need a location and plan for a meal (most likely potluck with club providing roadkill or mystery meat).

Summer Pic Nic planning: We need a place to gather outdoors (hopefully in August!) to socialize with members & family. Most likely club provided food as well as member pot luck type food. Maybe even set up a station

General Meeting Space Planning: When we "meet again" face to face we need a place where we can all gather to conduct club business and have the membership attend.

TNX Mike w7xtz

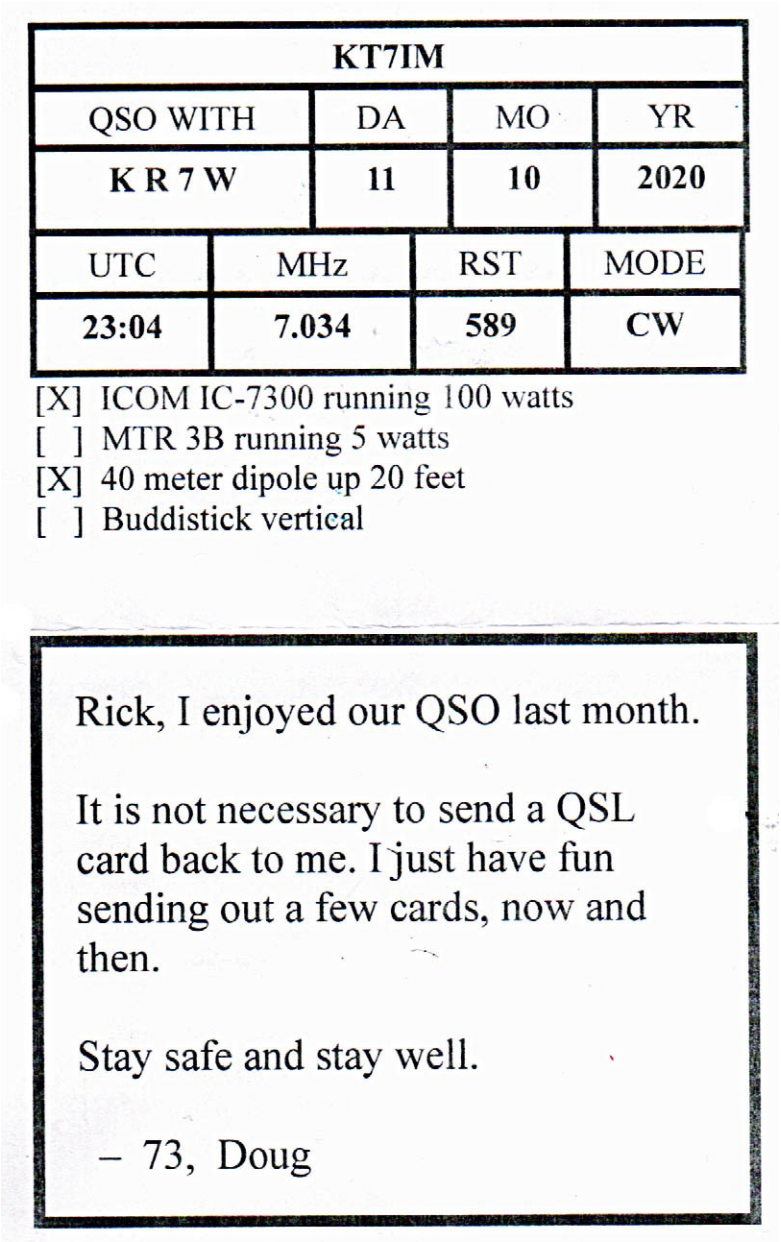
Short reminder from Bob about an old nemesis the Russian woodpecker!

messing up our ham bands, Its a broken pile of rust now. Bob K7MXE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOMVdOc9UbE&feature=emb_title

Now a couple from Rich, KR7W. Note that the QSL card below, KT7IM got Rich's name wrong… Happens all the time!

From KR7W: I especially like this QSL card from Doug KT7IM. It is unique to me because it is Do It Yourself, not fancy, but very effective to commemorate our enjoyable rag chew QSO.



KT7IM			
QSO WITH	DA	MO	YR
K R 7 W	11	10	2020
UTC	MHz	RST	MODE
23:04	7.034	589	CW

[X] ICOM IC-7300 running 100 watts
[ ] MTR 3B running 5 watts
[X] 40 meter dipole up 20 feet
[ ] Buddistick vertical

Rick, I enjoyed our QSO last month.

It is not necessary to send a QSL card back to me. I just have fun sending out a few cards, now and then.

Stay safe and stay well.

– 73, Doug

From randy WB4SPB a Straight Key Night report (SKN).

SKN soapbox:

This year, I put my modern Kenwood radio on a shelf and brought my Drake 4-Line radios up from the basement to operate in Straight Key Night. They hadn't been used for a while and were balky until I exercised the rotary switches a little. I heard W7OS engaged in a QSO, but I did not get a chance to work the club's Museum station myself. With my WWII J-38 and 1935 Stewart Johnson SpeedX bug, I did make four 80M SKN QSOs on Thursday evening, to ID, CA and CO. Then on Friday I had a nice 20M SKN ragchew with a station in WY. Several days and many QSOs later, I'm still having fun using the Drake equipment, but I've noted a couple of quirks that will send them shortly back to the bench for some upkeep.

73,
Randy WB4SPB

The Club LINEUP

Club Officers

President: Mike Mikuchonis –W7XTZ w7xtz©w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Adam Barbera, W2NCC - w2ncc©w7dk.org

Secretary: Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE - w7mke@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Steve Dightman, AF7YD - af7yd©w7dk.org

5 Board Members

Bruce Hanson, WE7P - we7p©w7dk.org

Paul Matney, W7PFU - w7pfu©w7dk.org

Verna Lilly KF7SBC- KF7SCB©w7dk.org

Red Cranefield, WB7EC - wb7ec©w7dk.org

Phil Pia, K7PIA - k7pia©w7dk.org

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www.w7dk.org [LINK] - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain 147.380 + PL=103.5 (E of Olympia © 1500 ft ASL)

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3